THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2507 *Thursday, Dec.* 24, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE trite proverb, "It is an ill wind that blows no one good," has been pleasingly illustrated for Price, in the dispute which occurred between Messrs. Kemble and Kean, by which the services of the latter gentleman were restored to this Theatre at the moment, when the most gloomly anticipations were entertained by managers and actors. The splendour of Mr. Kean's genius has dissipated the clouds which darkened the theatrical atmosphere of Drury Lane, and all again looks smiling and gay. Each night of Mr. Kean's performance the house has been filled, and on the whole, we never recollect to have seen him play better. Last night the Tragedy of *Othello* was performed with Kean, Young, and Miss Phillips, as *Othello, Iago,* and *Desdemona,* affording one of the most intellectual exhibitions the modern stage can boast. The applause was commensurate with the merit of such a performance.

After the play, the Farce of *My Wife! What Wife?* was acted for the first time this season. Farren, as *Captain Tempest*, played with consummate skill. His rage when he is first told he is married; his unwillingness to *doubt* if it be so; his terror that it *may* be true; and finally his readiness to think he is married, were marked with the nieest discrimination, and the richest comic effect; he was vehemently applauded throughout. There was nothing new in the cast, with the exception of Mrs. Newcombe, who made a pleasing representative of *Louisa.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

THE Tragedy of *Venice Preserved,* and the Drama of *Black Eyed Susan,* were performed at this house yesterday evening, to a crowded and delighted audience. The rising of that brilliant star, Fanny Kemble, in the dramatic hemisphere, has given an impetus to the affairs of this Theatre, as unexpected as it was welcome, and which will yield a profit superior to that of any season beforeChristmas for the last ten years. On Monday, Mr. Bennett will re-appear at this Theatre, as the *Earl of Essex,* in the Tragedy of that name.

Whilst Parsloe was rehearsing his part of Whirligig, in the new Pantomime, on Tuesday, he met with a very severe accident, and was carried home immediately; we were happy to hear, however, that he was yesterday so far recovered as to attend another rehearsal, and to take his leaps, &c. without feeling any inconvenience.

A new singer has excited some sensation at Vienna, and it is said that she will probably make as much noise in the musical world as Sontag. She is about 18 years old, is the daughter of Madame Grunbaum the vocalist, and attracts the dilletanti no less by her beauty than by her singing.

When Vestris was in Dublin, she attracted the devoirs of George S—, whose brawney shoulders supported one of the ugliest heads in all Ireland. He was always behind the scenes, and absolutely haunted the little syren, whose assumed deafness and marked inattention could not crush the hopes of the Irish Adonis. At last, on her stepping to the wing one night, he said to her, 'My God, Madame Vestris, why do you cut me in this cruel manner?' Eyeing him with a smile, she replied, 'My good, Sir, why should I occupy your valuable time, when if I want an emetic I can send to my apothecary for one.'

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor, I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to take a cup of Coffee, whiff a true Havannah, kill an hour over one or two of the Morning and Evening Papers—skim the Magazines, and play a game of Chess—delightful place——Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two grand views, at the Diorama, Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's, or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's will satisfy me.

On my return through Regent Street I step in to see the Wonders of Nature, displayed by Arts, at the Cosmorama.—The Palace of the Grand Seignor, The City of Grand Cairo, Grand Temple of Edfou in Egypt, Cherbourg, Cape St. Vincent, Mont St. Gothard, with the Devil's Bridge and the Falls of the Reuss in motion, and the last terrific Eruption of Mount Vesuvius—truly awful!—with others not less interesting; forming together 14 Views, being the largest ever exhibited in London.

On Tuesday, I drop into the Exhibition of Sculpture, in Old Bond Street, to view the figures, life size, of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny—work of a self-taught artist, James Thom—delighted beyond measure—fully expected to hear Tam's uproarious laugh—the expression so perfect; *pose* of figures admirable. Whoever has read Burns, (and who has not?) must see them—This very ingenious Exhibition closes in the course of a few weeks.

On Wednesday, previous to visiting 'Change, I step into the Paul's Head Assembly Rooms, Cateaton Street—inspect the magnificent Exhibition of Musical and Mechanical Automa—Two Automaton Trumpeters, as large as life, Musical Lady, Juvenile Artist, Rope Dancer, Magician, Walking Figure, a magnificent Vase, made by order of Napoleon, Birds, Beasts, &c.

On Friday, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

I daily, between 1 and 4, qualify Mrs. Pry's discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found at *The Apollonicon*, 101, St. Martin's Lane.—Market and Fishermen's Chorus, from the Opera of Masaniello, enchanting! but I intrude—beg pardon. Your's, PAUL PRY.

Printed and Published by E. Thomas, Denmark Court, Exeter-street, Strand.
All Communications must be post paid.—Printing in General.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

On Saturday, the Historical Drama of

The Royal Fugitive.

Duke William, Mr EGERTON, Sandy, Mr J. RUSSELL,
Colonel Cope, Mr BLANCHARD, General Campbell, Mr WOOD,
Prince Charles, Mr WARDE, Duke of Athol, Mr DIDDEAR,
Duchess of Athol, Miss E. TREE, Flora Macdonald, Miss CAWSE.

To conclude with (first time) a new Grand Comic Pantomime, called

Harlequin and Cock Robin;

Or Vulcan and Venus.

With new Music, Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, and Decorations. The whole produced under the direction of Mr FARLEY.

Vulcan, Mr FULLER, Cyclops, Messrs. Purday, Ransford, Tett, &c.
Æsop, Mr MEARS, Clout, the Farmer, Mr HENRY,
Hobnall, his Apprentice, (afterwards Whirligig) Mr E. J. PARSLOE,
Cuddie, (afterwards Harlequin) Mr ELLAR,
Clown.....Mr PAULO, Pantaloon.....Mr F. SUTTON,
Sally, (afterwards Columbine) Miss EGAN,
Widow Wiggins, Mr MILLER, Dame Dovepigbee, Mr TURNOUR,
Fat Farmer, Mr Griffiths, Spirit of Fire, Master Harvey,
Mons. Sulphuriate, (the Fire King) Mons. Arsenic,
Doctor, Mr Simpson, The Black Family, by the Messrs. White,
Venus, Miss RYALS, Cupid, Miss F. MARSHALL.

New Splendid Scenery.

Scene 1 The Palace of Vulcan (Grieve)—2 The Village of Robin's Nest on a Frosty Morning (Grieve)—3 A Landscape, with Æsop's Cottage (Grieve)—4 The Ruins of the Eagle Tower by Moonlight, in which is the Court of the Birds sitting in Judgment (Grieve)—The Star of Venus—5 The Moving Palm-Tree Grove (T. Grieve) 6 Cottage of a Market Gardener (W. Grieve)—7 The Outside of the Green Man Inn (W. Grieve)—8 The Inclosure of St. James's Park, and the Royal Palace (T. Grieve)—9 The Spread Eagle Tavern, and Baker's Shop (Finley)—10 The Bake House (Finley) 11 The Fire King's Exhibition Room (Finley)—12 Covent Garden Market (Pugh)—13 New Covent Garden Market, by Moonlight, (Pugh)—14 The Watch House (Finley)—15 View on the River Thames, with Westminster Abbey, from the Boat-House (T. Grieve) 16 The Picture Gallery (W. Grieve)—17 The Saloon of the New Bazaar, Oxford Street (Finley)—18 ROBERTS'S MOVING DIORAMA OF THE POLAR EXPEDITION, representing the progress of the Hecla and Fury, in their endeavours to discover a North West Passage, beginning with---1 Deptford—2 Discovery Prison Ship—3 Greenwich—4 Long Reach—5 Gravesend—6 A Line-of-Battle Ship off Sheerness—7 The Nore—8 The Ocean, by Moonlight—9 Hecla and Fury off Cape Farewell—10 Hudson's Bay—11 Baffin's Bay, 12 Melville Island, with Loss of the Fury—13 Final arrival of the Hecla in the Bay of Jeddo. 19 The Cave of Jamna (Grieve)—20 The Palace and Bower of Venus (Grieve).

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

On Saturday, the Tragedy of

JANE SHORE.

Duke of Glo'ster, Mr J. VINING, Lord Hastings, Mr WALLACK,
Dumont, Mr COOPER, Belmour, Mr YOUNGE,
Jane Shore, Miss PHILLIPS, Alicia, Mrs FAUCIT.

To conclude with (first time) a new Grand Comic Pantomime, called

Jack in the Box;

Or, Harlequin and the Princess

OF THE HIDDEN ISLAND.

The whole Invented and Produced by Mr W. Barrymore,

Flickerflame. the Goblin, Miss LANE, Glimmer, Mr SHERIFF,
Jack in the Box. Mr ALFRED, Blueblaze, Mr S. JONES,
Peep-Ho, Guardian of the Adamant Box, & Pantaloon, Mr BARNES.
High-ho, a Knight on a love-errand, & Harlequin, Mr HOWELL,
Rum-go, his 'Squire and Follower, & Clown, Mr J. S. GRIMALDI,
Luciana, Princess of the Hidden Island, & Columbine, Miss RYAL,
Ho-fum, the Giant Genius, Mr Altesse, Hi-fum, Madame Treslong,
Fum-she, the Giant's only Child, Mr WIELAND,
Mammi Pappi, her Nurse, Mr Bartlett, Kee-loc, Mr Brady,
Stoo-Pan, the Giant's Head Cook, Mr CHIKINI,
Hon. Mr Trifletime, with a Song, Miss POOL, *first Appearance*,
Doctor Syntax, Mr Eaton, Master Griskin, Mr Wieland,
Old Flying Dutchman, Mr Salter, New Flying Dutchman, Mr Lapwing,
Siamese Youths, with an united Pas Deux, Mess. Wieland & Chikini,
Fisherman, with a Parody, Mr Eaton,
Mushapng, the Monkey, the Phænomenon, Mys. VON KLESHNIG,

New Grand Scenery.

Scene 1 The Enchanted Grove and Goblin's Abode (Stanfield) With Fairy Vision of the Hidden Island. 2 Exterior of Ho-Fum's Palace (Andrews) 3 The Giant's Dining Parlour (Marinari) 4 Ascent to the burning Mount, with Beacon Light (Stanfield) 5 The Crater, by Moonlight, (Stanfield) 6 Splendid City of the Mists in the Hidden Island (Stanfield) 7 Lime-kilns, near Gravesend (Andrews) 8 New Post Office at 8 P. M. (Marinari) 9 The West End at 9 A. M. (Maranari) 10 A little Way out of Town (Andrews) 11 Veluti in Speculum (Andrews) with a Pas de Deux by Mr Howell & Miss Ryal, Les Ombres, Mr Chikini & Miss Macdonald. 12 The Half-Way House (Andrews) 13 Cheesemonger's Shop and Wine Vaults (Adams) 14 Mount Edgecombe (Stanfield) 15 Gloucester Coffee House—Snowy Night (Andrews),

Stanfield's Grand Local Diorama,

Displaying—Windsor—Town and Castle of Windsor—The River near Brocas Meadow, Sunset, with Eaton, by Moonlight—Windsor Great Park—The Castle—Plantations near the Royal Lodge—Virginia Waters—The Royal Pavilion—The Upper Lake—The Dry Arch—To conclude with a grand Display of the Falls of the Virginia Waters, in which 39 tons of Water will be introduced.